The Office of Strategic Services, the World War II intelligence agency, employed 900 analysts. Among them were two current Collington residents, both interviewed in “Sisterhood of Spies,” a history of female participation in the OSS.

Although we tend to think of the OSS as cloak and dagger, a lesser-known but indispensable branch was R&A – Research and Analysis – composed of scholars from numerous disciplines. Typically, its female employees were referred to as “girls,” two of whom were Patricia (Brubaker) Barnett and Evelyn Colbert.

According to Eugenia Barnett, Patricia’s daughter, she did not like being called a spy, and she certainly wasn’t one.

In her interview for Elizabeth McIntosh’s 1998 book, she said, “Some of the requirements they levied on me were mind-boggling at a time when our research files filled only one and a half drawers.” In a single day, “I would be asked to identify bombing targets in Southeast Asia; produce a plan to weaken the Japanese economy on the home front; and assess political changes the Japanese occupation army had made in Indonesia!”

Although considerable information could be gleaned from printed sources, much had to be gathered from operatives in the field. Pat was specific about the kinds of intelligence she was seeking, but realized that field staff didn’t have much time to “do a major research job.” So she might suggest, “We want to supply you with questions in case your people happen to meet a business man from Thailand over tea, or share an aperitif with a Frenchman from Indo China.”

In the early 1950s, after OSS shut down, both she and her then-husband were among the many in government service blacklisted by Sen. Joseph McCarthy. In spite of this, Patricia spent many more years employed in the foreign policy field.
Evelyn Colbert was working on her Ph.D. in international law at Columbia University when her husband took a job in Washington. According to a 2004 interview for The Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training Foreign Affairs Oral History Project, she realized that she needed a job and was asked if she’d be interested in working for the OSS on Japan, even though she “confessed my total ignorance of Japan.”

In the three months it took to get her security clearance, she read everything available on contemporary Japan. At the time, there was very little. Although she was unaware, “I was on the road to becoming an Asia specialist at a time when Asia specialists were few and opportunities correspondingly great.” She was “given interesting and challenging work from the start.” When she joined, “there was still a pioneering atmosphere.” And “this, together with the unaccustomed secrecy in which we were supposed to be operating was quite exhilarating.”

Evelyn received some preliminary training, which she remembered as “not very illuminating and sometimes rather baffling,” but nothing on Japan. Among the work she did was “producing civil affairs handbooks on national government, local government, and the police and judicial systems,” studies for use by the armed forces, including landing sites as well as “political and social characteristics,” and weekly situation reports.

After the War, Evelyn remained with R&A, which was transferred to the State Department, while much of the OSS activity was taken up by the new Central Intelligence Agency. From her 2004 interview, it’s clear that her insights and understanding of the nuances of organizations and people were considered exceptional.

Evelyn retired from government service in 1980. For the next two decades, she taught at the Foreign Service Institute and the School of Advanced International Studies, as well as lecturing and writing. She is the author or co-author of at least nine books, the first of which, “Retaliation in International Law,” (1948) was her Columbia Ph.D. dissertation.

All in all, Collington must have seemed rather tranquil to these two “OSS girls.”
Women’s History Month
Memories of Gender Bias

Editor’s Note: As part of our Women’s History Month coverage, the Collingtonian invited women residents to submit examples of gender discrimination they had faced. We received more than a dozen replies. Some have been shortened for reasons of space.

Mary Bird: When I was job hunting in the 1960s and 70s, armed with a Master’s in social science, all of the interviewers I encountered were men. Some treated me like any job applicant. Others were offensive. For example:

- A federal official told me outright, “That job is for a man.” And asked if I could type.
- The head of a non-profit asked what would happen if I got married while working for him.
- When I returned home after another interview, there was a knock on my door and it was the interviewer!

Pat Bozeman: Five things immediately come to mind: (1) as an 8-year-old I was unable to serve as an acolyte in my hometown Episcopal church. (2) in high school girls could play only six-on-six basketball, each team being relegated to just half the court; (3) in college, all women were required to sign in and out of their dorms, being allowed only three “lates” per semester; sign-in times ranged from 9 p.m. for freshmen to 11 p.m. for seniors (no such restrictions were placed upon the men); (4) as a young divorcee in 1972, I was refused gas credit cards in my name, despite the fact that I held down a permanent, reasonably well-paying job; and (5) in the workplace there were no official mechanisms to report, or even stop, sexual harassment. This last was by far the most serious.

Tucker Farley: I was prohibited from writing a dissertation about any woman writer because that wasn’t scholarly. There were only two women in the centuries of the entire literary canon. To say a writer was a woman writer meant she didn’t really count. Where women heroines appeared in novels by men, they were either married or dead by the end.

The men hired at the New York university where I got a job had expenses paid to move there, advisors to help them write their books and articles for tenure, a fully furnished office, a telephone, a typewriter, access to secretaries – and I, a 31-year-old woman professor, did not. When I asked for an office and furniture I was sent to the storage room under the library roof to sit amid piles of dusty old unused furniture and met my students there. When the male professors were invited to the department meeting, I was invited to the faculty wives club. In 1970. That was only the beginning of a professorial career. And fifty years later it can sound strident mentioning such facts.

Diane Fleming: 1953-started in science (W&M, BS; Emory U, MS), and as entry-level faculty, microbiology, JHU SOM and SHPH.
1962-moved for husband’s surgical training and military obligations. Applied for a job in Duke U. Biophysics. The PI said he would not have a woman in his lab.
With USAF moves I struggled to find employment or experience to keep up in my field.
1964, Myrtle Beach AFB, P/T hospital labs;
1966 Memphis U: inequality in position and pay.
1969 Homestead AFB, FL: unpaid hospital lab
1972 Lakenheath, UK, Open U, Cambridge, Asst. Staff Tutor, Biology
1978 Wright State U. SOM, Dayton, OH. Asst Prof, pay inequity
1980 JHMI, Biological Safety Manager and faculty, pay inequity
1988 BSO, FCRC, Ft Detrick, MD. pay inequity
1990 requested peer survey to counter low salary offer from Merck, Inc. for Manager, Corporate Bio-
Liz and Kyle Barbehenn: Achievements in Science

Apt. 256, Ext. 5123. They had just spotted a Bald Eagle soaring over Collington’s lake. How exciting! And totally in keeping with a couple who once raised a pet bat that tried to cuddle up to sleep with them!

Kyle was born in Cumberland, Md., and later moved to New Jersey. Having grown up around people who were naturalists, and enjoying spending time in the woods by himself, it is no wonder that he studied forestry at Rutgers University, and then got his graduate degree from Cornell University, specializing in small mammals.

Liz is a native of Washington’s Cleveland Park area. When she was 10, her family bought a farm in the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia, where she spent five summers raising chickens and wandering around the hills. She went on to do most of her undergraduate work at Cornell.

It was during their final years at Cornell that Kyle and Liz met while folk dancing. Liz majored in biochemistry. After graduation, Kyle served two years in the Army while Liz studied at Johns Hopkins, then an all-male undergraduate university with only a few women in the graduate program. Their first anniversary was celebrated on Ponape, in the Eastern Caroline Islands. There, Kyle studied roof rats, which were a problem for the coconut crop. And, it was there that they rescued and raised a baby fruit bat found after a typhoon, a creature that thought of itself as a member of the family, so that the bedroom door had to be kept closed to keep it out of bed.

In order to raise their children, two boys and a girl, Liz took a 12-year break. During that time, she and Kyle spent two years on Guam, where Kyle had a grant to study shrews, an invasive species. If you have any questions about shrews, he can answer them! He later taught physiology at the University of Pennsylvania, followed by a stint as the first director of the Smithsonian’s Chesapeake Bay Center in Annapolis. From there, they moved to St. Louis, where Kyle studied sewer rats while Liz went back to graduate school at Washington University.

After St. Louis, Kyle got a job with the Environmental Protection Agency regulating pesticides. The family moved to Bethesda, where Liz began 10 years in the lab at the National Institutes of Health followed by 13 years at the Food and Drug Administration as a toxicologist, trying to protect the public from harmful drugs. Both found their subjects controversial, and as a result, they recall, learned a lot about politics.

Industry pressure at FDA convinced Liz to continue her drug work at Public Citizen, the nonprofit organization founded by Ralph Nader. She still works for them as a contractor helping to revise their book, “Worst Pills, Best Pills”. When Kyle’s health began deteriorating, their son Mike, who lives in Boston, helped them find Collington as a place to settle, about which they are very glad. Kyle is getting the care he needs and Liz is enjoying the pool and walking trails as well as the amazing residents.
Bonnie Cronin: A Career in Public Service (and an unusual distinction)

Cottage 4016, Ext. 7347. Bonnie arrived at Collington last October from Melrose, Mass., where she had retired from an exciting and challenging career, to “cultivate my garden, like Candide.” She had chaired the Human Rights Commission there and had also organized English conversation classes for Melrose residents who came from all over the world.

Bonnie grew up in southern Illinois and earned undergraduate degrees from the University of Missouri in Broadcasting and Education. She met her future husband there and taught school to help him get his Ph.D. Later, while living in Normal, Ill., she received a master’s degree in English. Bonnie and her husband then moved to Boston, where she got a job at Boston University’s public radio station. She retained that job even after almost everyone else was fired as a result of an arson incident. As program manager, then general manager, she was instrumental in shifting the University’s radio station from playing mostly classical music, as two other Boston stations were doing, to jazz, and happily worked there for eight years.

When John Anderson launched his presidential campaign in 1980, Bonnie became his deputy scheduler. She was then hired for six weeks for John Kerry’s lieutenant governor campaign and continued to work for him for the next 15 years. When Paul Tsongas resigned his seat in the Senate, Bonnie helped set up Kerry’s campaign for the seat. In 1985, when Kerry won, Bonnie was sent to Washington to set up his office and she stayed there for a year and a half. Back in the Boston office, Bonnie did outreach to constituent groups and worked on policy.

In 1995, Bonnie was appointed Kerry’s Massachusetts chief of staff. He was then in a hotly contested race against Bill Weld, Massachusetts’ popular governor. After Kerry’s victory in 1996, feeling burned out, she requested to leave. Kerry told her, “You can leave the office, but you can’t leave the family.” She has remained a close friend of the “Kerry family” to this day.

Next, Bonnie worked for Working Capital, in the area of micro-finance, making small loans to people who would otherwise have no easy access to financing. During three years, she educated people on business procedures and eventually got into the area of development and fund raising. She was hired by the U.S.S Constitution Museum, working with foundations and government agencies. Just before the 2008 crash, Bonnie retired, having previously moved to Melrose, where she lived for a total of 23 years. The Melrose community as well as members of the Kerry family gave her a huge send off, homage of thanks for her work and contribution to the community.

Here in Collington she is closer to her son, who lives in northern Virginia. Having sung with a choral group in Melrose, it was natural that she would join the Collington Singers. She is enjoying meeting and getting to know the many interesting people who live here. But you’d never guess another accomplishment: She is a (copperhead) snake-killing champion, an honor received during her time at a Girl Scout camp!
Take a Ride to D.C.’s Cherry Blossoms
By James Giese

Picture this: You are suffused in a soft shade of pink from sunlight filtering through a canopy of cherry blossoms. Before you, strollers leisurely walk alongside the Washington Tidal Basin. In the Basin paddle-wheel boats meander hither and yon. The opposite shoreline is a stripe of pink from more blossoms. Off to the right, the statue of Thomas Jefferson looks toward you through the marble pillars of his memorial. Could anything be more idyllic?

I remember that scene. But today, even though the Washington cherry blossoms are as beautiful as ever, it is not the same. Humans will be everywhere, so thick along the shoreline path, you won’t be able to see the boats or Jefferson. Lights will be flashing all around you as selfies are taken. The Tidal Basin and its blossoms will be surrounded by a wall of motor vehicles caught in a massive traffic jam.

Even so, the Washington cherry blossoms retain their extraordinary beauty and are well worth the trip. However, spring weather is uncooperative and you need to be ready to go that first sunny day when 70 percent of the Yoshino cherry blossoms are in full bloom. If you don’t do it then, you might not get a second chance.

With daffodils blooming in mid-February this year, the blossom peak is expected to be unusually early, perhaps by mid-March. The Cherry Blossom Festival runs from March 20 to April 16. The two main events are the opening ceremony on March 25 and the parade along Constitution Avenue on April 8. You can get more information at the National Cherry Blossom Festival website.

Because traffic is so bad near the blossoms, the best way to go is Metro to the Smithsonian station. Both the Largo and New Carrolton station lines have direct service there. Head west down Independence Avenue a few blocks and you can’t miss them.

If you must drive, from Collington take route U.S. 50 west to Kenilworth Avenue south. Kenilworth becomes the Anacostia Freeway. Turn onto the Southwest Freeway, I-695 to I-395, and get off at East Potomac Park, the next exit after Maine Avenue. Don’t be confused by early exit signs; the exit is on your right.

The ramp dead ends at Ohio Avenue. The Tidal Basin is to your left, but I recommend you turn right. Ohio Avenue follows the west shore of the Washington Channel southward with Main Avenue waterside restaurants on the other side. If you see an open parking space, grab it. Early morning would probably be the best time to go, but on weekdays you will be fighting rush hour traffic to get there.
In nearly five years as Collington’s Marketing Director, Susan Deller has been variously described as hard-working, resourceful, upbeat, creative, classy and a team builder. Each of those words accurately describes one facet of this successful businesswoman.

Susan has left for a job in Mount Vernon, Va., much nearer to her home. Her last day was Feb. 28.

When Susan arrived at Collington in June 2012, she brought a management style that emphasized the team concept, which requires cooperation and collaboration among the residency counselors. Their success is not dependent on a star performer but on the work of the whole team.

This approach, and Collington’s affiliation with Kendal in 2011, brought dramatic results. When Susan arrived, occupancy was at 67 percent. It is now at 92 percent. The trick was to sell what “could be” rather than “what was” because Collington then had financial challenges and significant deferred maintenance problems. While there was a lot of inventory, much of it was unappealing. Susan and her team addressed that problem by changing the inventory. Voila! The creation of the Renaissance units, of which there are now 22, to give prospective residents what they sought – more space and more light. For others, open sunrooms were created to provide a similar effect.

Susan knows that her tenure at Collington has been a game changer, but she graciously shares the credit, speaking of the positive support she received from the Kendal marketing department and the Collington residents – “they are so modest and so supportive” – and of course, the team that she has nurtured and considers family. These are the things she said she would miss most. For those of us who know her, the feeling is mutual. We wish her well.

Bias from p. 3

safety. After saving the pharmaceutical industry millions by reducing LS fermentation containment requirements, my reward was a dinner voucher. My male boss got a bonus.

Frances Kolarek: In the depths of the Depression I went to work right after high school, where I had acquired typing and shorthand skills. I finally landed a job with the Washington Times-Herald, wound up in the Managing Editor’s office, right on the edge of the City Room. I was 18 or 19, and nowhere near as sophisticated as teens are today.

To get to the Ladies Room we gals had to walk the length of the City Room and go up to the next floor. On the way back I might be asked, loud and clear, “Did everything come out all right, Miss Reynolds?”

Some of the reporters, a raunchy bunch, popped into my office to hit on me or cop a feel if they got close enough. But the rest of the men looked out for me. If the guys saw a predator glide through my door, within a few minutes one of them would come in with a make-believe errand and interrupt any attempted monkey business.

Peggy Latimer: Wanted to move to a very small co-op in Brooklyn Heights. In my thirties, three degrees, a respectable job, and couldn’t get a
CO2 Warning: A Woman’s Discovery
By Art Kreuger

For this year’s commemoration of women’s history, it is appropriate to recognize the long-neglected scientific study carried out by Eunice Foote in 1856. This was the first study of the heat-trapping properties of carbon dioxide, and as such relevant to our understanding of climate change, an issue over which we have been arguing for more than half a century.

Essentially, her experiment required the isolation of several atmospheric gases such as oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and water vapor, and then inserting each gas separately into sealed glass containers, each with a thermometer. Notably, when then exposed to sunlight, carbon dioxide showed a major rise in temperature, whereas the common atmospheric gases, nitrogen and oxygen, indicted little or no change. From this, she cautiously pointed out that carbon dioxide could be a factor in climate change.

This historically significant study by Eunice Foote was reported on at an 1856 meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Albany, N.Y. – not by her, but by Joseph Henry. Woman did not present papers at these scientific meetings. Additionally, her study was published in the November 1856 issue of the American Journal of Science with the title; ‘Circumstances affecting the heat of the sun’s rays”, and in turn it was alluded to in an editorial review posted that year in Scientific American.

But only three years later, in 1859, British physicist John Tyndall would report on his own similar study to the prestigious Royal Society of London. But his report did not include quantitative results or specify which gases were studied, as did the Eunice Foote study. This would only be reported on in 1861. But nevertheless, Tyndall would be the one recognized for this discovery of the role of carbon dioxide in trapping atmospheric energy, and Mrs. Foote’s study would fall by the wayside – only to be discovered in 2011.

But then, it was a man’s world, and Eunice Foote recognized this – having participated in and helped organize the first “Women’s Rights Convention” in Seneca Falls, N.Y., in 1848.

Our County’s Founding
This is one of a series of vignettes of Prince George’s County history compiled by Pat Bozeman. The source is Alan Virias’s “Prince George’s County: A Pictorial History.

The new justices of Prince George’s County met at court on April 23, 1696, in a place called Mount Calvert, though its correct name was Charles Town. Still little more than frontier, this was the first town within the bounds of the new county to serve as the seat of government.

In 1706-07, the General Assembly directed that six new towns be established in Prince George’s County: Upper Marlboro, Nottingham, Queen Anne, Mill Town, Piscataway and Aire (also known as Broad Creek). Lying in the heart of tobacco country, Upper Marlboro was the first of these to develop and it was made the county seat in 1721.
Women’s History Month

‘Senator Barb’ Paved the Way
By Carl Koch

Our Senator for 30 years, until her retirement in January, was Barbara Mikulski, a four-foot, eleven-inch ball of energy with Polish parents who ran a store and bakery in Highlandtown, an inner-city neighborhood of Baltimore.

She has been described by the Baltimore Sun as having “the ambition, smarts, spunk, leadership commitment to social justice necessary to create fundamental changes” among those with political power. In addition, she possesses a “colorful personality – a self-effacing humor and cranky quips.”

As a Congresswoman, she co-sponsored, with Senator Orin Hatch of Utah, a 1981 bill designating one week in March as Women’s History Week. In 1987 the observation was extended to a month by presidential proclamation. She is the first woman to serve in both houses of Congress, the first to be elected in her own right (that is, to a seat not previously held by a deceased husband) and the longest-serving woman in Congress.

Barbara Mikulski gained local recognition in 1970 by heading the fight against a freeway through urban Baltimore that would eliminate several neighborhoods. She said, “The British couldn’t take Fells Point, the termites couldn’t take Fells Point and we don’t think the State Roads Commission can take Fells Point either.” She won that battle.

She was elected to Congress in 1977 and to the Senate in 1987. Emily’s List, a group that began in 1985, committed to electing pro-choice women, backed her 1987 Senate run financially. It was Emily’s List’s first campaign. They have since been helpful in increasing the number of women in the Senate to 19 and the number of Congresswomen to 110.

At first in the Senate, Mikulski faced many “old boy” traditions. The gym and swimming pool did not allow women. Women had to wear skirts or dresses on the Senate floor.

She led a “pantsuit rebellion” in 1993, wearing the garb later made fashionable by Hillary Clinton.

After four more female Democratic senators were election in 1992, some referred to the “year of the woman.” Senator Mikulski responded, “Calling 1992 the year of the woman makes it sound like the year of the caribou or the year of the asparagus. We’re not a fad, a fancy or a year”.

Over thirty years in the Senate “Senator Barb” mentored new senators and introduced dozens of laws protecting women’s rights. Last year, when President Obama gave her the Medal of Freedom, he pointed out that the first bill that he had signed into law was the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, written by Senator Mikulski.
mortgage anywhere. Finally was accepted by a local savings bank. Its president knew my bosses; by chance, he also knew my father and seemed to think he was reasonably upstanding. Even then, the bank would only give me a variable rate mortgage. In the end, however, I got the last laugh: The interest rate at the signing was 16 percent, and, from that day on, it declined rather precipitously.

Nancy Long: A large array of jobs was definitely not common for women in the 1960s. I'm waay happy for those in the Big Girl pants of today. In contrast, the usual careers for women of the ‘60s were: secretary, teacher, and nurse. As for pay, even my graduate degree in the early ‘70s did not ensure that my salary was higher than that of some men with lesser degrees at my workplace. Many female shoulders together – my generation! – forced open doors into male-dominated fields, and women are clearly thriving there. I’m so proud of us! And I’m everlastingly grateful that my parents expected the same for me as my brother: college and a self-supporting job.

Jessica Milstead: When I was finishing my bachelor’s degree in 1956, I was planning to become a clinical psychologist. I applied to two schools: Princeton University and a university in Florida. The school in Florida offered me a full fellowship and Princeton turned me down because I was a woman. It never occurred to me to find out if I had any rights. I didn’t become a clinical psychologist but that’s a whole other story about paths not taken.

Nancy Phillips: I learned soon after I said “I do” that my worth as a woman diminished. My hard-earned credit cards and bank account plus savings were gone to “ours.” Verbal abuse and put-downs increased. Babies came along and we settled into a new suburb. My husband wanted control of me and very little part of out-side life and community. I went to counseling – he wouldn’t go – but at least the children and I benefited.

I took classes in self-help and women’s issues. After getting a part-time job I got my own car, got my own credit cards and bank account. When the last child left for college, I was out of there. I earned an M.A. and got a job I loved as a patient representative. After being ousted at age 60, I successfully filed an age discrimination suit.

I feel I have fought my battles. I can sit back and encourage my daughters and granddaughters.

Lorrie Rogers: 1961 – Applied for jobs at the Travelers Insurance Company as an actuarial student or computer programmer. Told that there was a requirement of two years experience in the respective field for both positions for women, although there was no such requirement for men.

Late 1960s – at a League of Women Voters meeting, a member of the Hartford Board of Education, president of a small insurance company, stated in response to a question that, given the choice between an equally qualified man and woman, he would hire the woman because he could pay her less.

Late 1970s – was told by Travelers that I could not take on a particular role because I had young children and what if the position required travel to Minneapolis, for instance – not that travel had ever been part of that position, not that it ever did become part, not that I couldn’t have made child-care arrangements.

Doris Walsh: In the 1950s in high school, I could not be a class or student council president -- because I was a girl. In the 1960s I could not sign legal papers or open a credit card in my name – because I was a married woman. In the 1980s I was a sole proprietor of my own business - supplying contract services to a major D.C. hospital. When I submitted my detailed annual report to the CEO, he dismissed it, tossed it aside and said, “What does your husband think about you working so much?”
We all have our favorite shrubs, often from memories of homes we lived in for many years. These shrubs often included roses, lilac, forsythia, azaleas, and rhododendrons. These are favorites due to beauty and possibly also fragrance.

Memories from my early years include a drive along Greenbelt Road (now Rte. 193) in May, when miles of woodland along both sides were filled with mountain laurel in full bloom. These shrubs are not usually attractive as lawn specimens, but masses of them are beautiful. And the individual flowers have a special geometric design.

The native deciduous pink azalea in our area is another fine remembrance. Shrubs up to six feet tall bloom in springtime before the leaves emerge. The flower clusters are “spidery,” with prominent stamens and pistils extending well beyond the petals. Both laurel and native azaleas are disappearing from the woodlands due to urban development and browsing deer.

A non-native shrub that is not browsed by deer is spiraea. A full-grown Van Hout spiraea is too big for most lawns, being 8 feet tall and 15 feet wide. Where it can be accommodated, a large plant in full flower in May is a giant radiant white cloud of spectacular beauty. Does it have a downside? Yes, this big shrub becomes a nursery for tree seedlings and weedy vines that are difficult to remove.

Another memorable shrub for me is the cabbage rose. The plants never looked like much, and the pink bloom is not spectacular, but the fragrance is so captivating it is almost hypnotizing. English boxwood is a neat, slow-growing evergreen shrub often associated with colonial mansions and parterre gardens. For growth, figure about one inch per year. Its foliar fragrance is not so good, but this fragrance can often protect nearby “delicious” plants from deer.

Dorothy Yuan: Like most young women growing up in the late 50s, my ultimate aim was to find an appropriate husband, even though I knew that it was necessary to obtain a professional degree in case the husband did not materialize. Fortunately for me, however, encounter with amazing teachers provided inspiration to pursue more lofty goals.

It is easy to forget that, in addition to societal obstacles, women in earlier times had to conquer, in their own minds, their perceptions of being just adjuncts to men. I have to admit, also, that the progress of my career benefited from changing attitudes towards gender inequality. At a time when various institutions decided to increase the number of women in their midst, I may have been rapidly promoted because I was only one of two women in a large faculty that favored after-dinner cigars and whiskey.

Joan Zorza: In sixth grade I considered becoming an astronomer, so I interviewed a famous woman astronomer at Harvard. She and her husband told me Harvard had no female professors of astronomy, but appointed him, “a mediocre astronomer,” a full professor. In high school girls could not run for class president, only for secretary or treasurer.

My father (then chairman of MIT’s Math Department) insisted it was fair to pay women less because they “can’t do original research and don’t support families.” He gave male faculty raises when they fathered a new baby, yet claimed he couldn’t do this for secretaries who had babies or whose husbands died or became disabled because the department had only one executive secretary position, which seldom opened up. To opt out of mathematics, I got married. Sixteen years later I became a lawyer, a field with almost as much gender bias.
Good Times Roll at Collington

Collington celebrated Mardi Gras Feb. 28 with festivities including live Dixieland Jazz, a parade of decorated scooters and wheelchairs, and the crowning of a king and queen (at right) Sheik Fahnbulleh of Dining Services and resident Eloise Branche. Photo by Joyce Koch.

The month also featured a first-of-its kind musical evening showcasing resident talent. Tim Sabin (left) was master of ceremonies; below, Tim was joined by drummer Don Lewis and pianist Marilyn Haskel. The entertainment included the graceful dancing of Ed and Marion Robbins (below, left). Photos by Pete Peterson.